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National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

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OCT 26 1999

Office of the Chairman

Federal Aviation Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation Dockets
Room Plaza 401
400 7th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Attention: Docket No. FAA- 1999-6001 - 38

Dear Sir:

The National Transportation Safety Board has reviewed your notice of proposed rulemaking, "Protection of Voluntarily Submitted Information," which was published in 64 FR No. 142, pages 40472-40482 on July 26, 1999. The notice proposes to add a new regulatory part to provide that certain information submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration on a voluntary basis would not be disclosed.

Similar regulations govern the Safety Board's handling of voluntarily provided information, which is disclosed only when required in an accident investigation. The Board strongly endorses programs that encourage the provision and sharing of safety-related information. Therefore, the Safety Board supports the proposed rule although we will continue to conduct accident investigations and handle voluntarily provided information under our procedures and regulations.

The Safety Board appreciates the opportunity to comment on this proposed rule.

Sincerely,


Jim Hall
Chairman

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CHIEF COUNSEL
RULES DOCKET

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